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COUNTRY

East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC

Gesellschaft fuer Sport und Technik

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 1 September 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. [redacted] the Gesellschaft fuer Sport und Technik (Athletic and Technical Association) was officially dissolved. All propaganda posters were removed at the VEB Kessel- und Apparatebau. The members of the association were forbidden to wear the badges of their association. However, membership cards had not to be turned in. While the state of emergency was still in force, the courier of the Athletic and Technical Association came to the VEB Kessel- und Apparatebau and announced that firing practices were to be held in Schoenholz. The rifles required would be taken in boxes to the firing range.

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2. [redacted] the Athletic and Technical Association, although dissolved officially, would continue its operations under a new name. The glider training given by the association in Kamenz continued. The full time functionaries of the association were VPs who wore civilian clothes.

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3. [redacted] the rifle section of the Athletic and Technical Association in Rostock was dissolved in late June. All other sections of the association continued their previous activities. The training of the motor transport section was intensified. However, it was considered undesirable openly to wear the official badges of the association after the June 17 uprising.

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4. [redacted] a special department at the central headquarters of the Athletic and Technical Association in Halle maintained connection to the DOOSAF. It was the function of this department to utilize DOOSAF publications for the work of the Athletic and Technical Association. The department mentioned was in charge of Publications on the activities of DOOSAF in the magazine "Sport und Technik". It also published manuals and training material. Material concerning DOOSAF was made available through the Organisation fuer kulturelle Verbindung mit dem Ausland (Organization for Cultural Connections with Foreign Countries) on Mauer Strasse in Berlin W 3. Reports on DOOSAF were subjected to censorship

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by a Soviet press officer attached to a liaison department in Halle. This liaison department was one of the most important departments at the central headquarters of the Athletic and Technical Association, since DOOSAF was considered as a model organization by the leadership of the Athletic and Technical Association.

5. Since the association has been in existence the following sums were spent on the procurement of training equipment:

<u>Item of Equipment</u>	<u>Sum Spent in Eastmarks</u>
Fieldglasses	120,000
Small-bore rifles	3,000,000
Radio equipment	220,000
Compasses	80,000
Overalls for motor transport training	600,000
Crash helmets	135,000
Sailing boats	3,000,000

6. After firing ceased to be a compulsory subject of the Athletic and Technical Association the attendance dropped greatly. After the new regulation was announced most of the members [] no longer attended firing practices. After the new course was proclaimed, supplies of military equipment and equipment related to motor transport training were greatly reduced. Thus for instance, motorcycles in a total value of 180,000 eastmarks originally earmarked for the Athletic and Technical Association, were offered to HO shops for sale. ¹

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1. [] Comment. Information on a reduction of activities of the Athletic and Technical Association after early July 1953 was transmitted previously.

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